

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, Applicant submits the present communication. Applicant notes that claims 29 and 30 now have the proper status identifiers.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended in the informal telephonic interview of January 31, 2007. Applicant also notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 2-5, 7-9, and 11-13 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-13, 19, 22, 23, and 26-30 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended, claim 11 has been cancelled, and new claims 27-30 have been added. In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-13, 19, 22, 23, and 26-30 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-13, 19, 22, 23, and 26

At page 3 of the Office Action of November 1, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-5, 7-9, and 11-13 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has incorporated allowable dependent claim 11 into independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1, as presently recited, is allowable and is not anticipated or rendered obvious by any of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another.

Moreover, dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 12, 13, 19, 22, 23, and 26 are also patentable over the references cited by the Examiner, at least, by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claim 1.

New Claim 27

At page 3 of the Office Action of November 1, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-5, 7-9, and 11-13 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant respectfully notes that new independent claim 27 is allowable dependent claim 2 incorporated into previously presented independent claim 1 in the manner suggested by the Examiner, at page 3 of the Office Action of November 1, 2006.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 27 is allowable and is not anticipated or rendered obvious by any of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another.

New Claims 28-30

New claim 28 has been added to provide an alternative recitation of independent claims 1 and 27. In particular, new independent claim 28 recites, among other things, “a horizontal base having an area of a predetermined shape and including an elongated support member extending at least around a periphery of the area of the predetermined shape to define the predetermined shape, said base plate secured to a portion of said horizontal base proximate the periphery thereof.” None of the references cited by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest this feature.

Furthermore, new independent claim 28 also recites, among other things, “at least one box having the same product packaged therein, the at least one box being stacked on the horizontal base.” None of the references cited by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest this feature either.

New dependent claims 29 and 30 further define features recited in independent claim 28. New claims 28-30 are clearly supported by FIGS. 1-3 and corresponding portions of the specification.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 28 and new dependent claims 29 and 30 are allowable as not being anticipated or rendered obvious by any of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination with one another.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account debit Account 50-0548.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Valencia', is written over a horizontal line.

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